

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

- Week ending the 15th October 1904.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 8th October writes as follows :—

The Tibet affair.

Government says that the object of the Tibet Mission was to gain free access for British goods to that country and not to serve any political purpose. But many people believe that it was the fear of Russian influence over the Dalai Lama which led to the sending of the Mission to Tibet. This belief is strengthened by the express avowal of the Anglo-Indian Press that in fighting with the Tibetans the English are really fighting with Russia. As for free-trade, the English have not established that in Tibet, because under the Treaty of Lhasa only English and Indian merchants will be allowed to trade with that country. The idea so long fondly entertained by many people that Tibet teems with the fabulous wealth of an El Dorado has been rudely shaken. Instead of finding slabs of gold and heaps of diamonds in the streets of Lhasa the English found them filled with all sorts of filth and abomination. Indian articles may gradually find a mart in Tibet. But the Tibetans will never purchase such European articles as toys, glass utensils, gew-gaws of luxury, materials for mills and railways, etc., nor will Manchester weavers find it necessary to increase the number of their looms to meet the requirements of Tibetan trade, because the people of that country wear woollen, and not cotton, clothes. It appears from this that British merchants will hardly derive any benefit, at least for some time to come, from their trade with Tibet. They will therefore have to open emporiums of Indian articles in that country, and in this import trade their powerful competition will prove ruinous to the native tradesmen there. The Chinese supremacy over Tibet has been increased rather than diminished by the treaty of Lhasa, because the Chinese Amban will henceforward be recognized as the chief authority at the Tibetan capital. Then, again, there is every possibility of the Dalai Lama returning to Lhasa after the return of the British force therefrom and creating fresh difficulties. The first-fruits of the treaty will therefore, in the opinion of some people, be discontent, intrigue, and internal dissension in that hitherto unknown land of Lamas and *Mahatmas*. This view is, to some extent, shared by the *Times* of London. Besides this, Russia's protest against the treaty, the Chinese Emperor's delay in ratifying it, the return of the British troops from Lhasa, and the Dalai Lama's influence in Tibet,—all these make us suspicious as regards the continuance of the settlement just made by Colonel Younghusband.

2. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th October writes :—

"Partiality for British rule."

At the time of the annexation of Burma, it was explained that that measure was undertaken at the request of the oppressed Burmese subjects of King Thebaw, and that it was not for the purpose of promoting their own interests that the English made the annexation. It was true that the interests of some English merchants were involved in the question, but it was not just to deprive a country of its independence for the sake of a small handful of traders. It was only pity for the sufferings of the oppressed people of Burma that actuated the British Government to take the extreme step of annexation.

The same professions of disinterestedness were used at the time of the late Transvaal war. It was not the mines that tempted the British in this case. It was because the Boers did not treat the Englishman exactly as one of themselves; it was because the foreigners were not treated with impartiality that the Boer war began. The people of India have been clamouring for political rights in their own country for the last twenty years, as yet without avail. And yet because the English are refused those same political rights in a foreigner's country, that country is deprived of its independence. The English insist on having political rights for themselves in any and every country they may reside in for the moment. And yet in India, a country under their own government, they refuse the least measure of political liberty to the natives. This is a strange mystery indeed.

The turn of Tibet has now come after Burma and the Transvaal. When the Mission first entered Tibet, we were told that the natives generally were in favour of the Mission, and it was the opposition of the Lamas only which had to be faced. The people of Tibet were inclined to welcome the Mission as

BANGAVASI,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

their deliverers from the tyranny of the Dalai Lama and his followers. The few small fights on the way were simply the work of the Lamas with which the people at large had no sympathy.

Now, however, with the conclusion of peace, a different story is being heard. The Lamas, it is said, treated the Mission well during their stay at Lhasa; one of the chief Lamas even pronounced his blessing on Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald. It was only the perversity of the common populace that hindered the progress of the negotiations. Then as to the treaty itself, at first it was reported that it had been made with the assent of the Chinese Amban. Now, however, we hear that he did not sign the treaty, as he had no authority from the Emperor of China to do so. It thus appears that the treaty was not signed either by the Dalai Lama or by the Chinese Amban. And yet the Mission returns after claiming to have finished its work triumphantly.

Previous to the annexation of any country it is always the policy of the British to represent its people as eager to throw themselves under the strong protection of England, as a relief from the oppressions of their native rulers. Absence of opposition both on the part of the native ruler and his subjects, which is due to pure weakness, is interpreted as willing acquiescence in the new arrangements due to partiality for British rule.

The adoption of this new policy dates from 1757, when the cowardly leaders of Bengal first conspired against the reigning Nawab of the time. Nowadays whenever a country is selected as a suitable prey, as a step preliminary to annexation its people are credited with a love for British rule and a hatred of their native rulers.

The political situation on all sides is disquieting. Affairs in Tibet will probably soon require another campaign to right them. The Persian Mission, though commercial, might give rise to political complications. On the North-West Frontier, the Afridis are entering and looting British territory, and yet their leaders are being received with honour by the Amir.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

3. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October has the following :—

Policy of the present Amir of Kabul.

A large number of Afridi Chiefs were expelled the country by the late Amir of Kabul. They are now returning to Kabul and receiving help from the present Amir in various ways. Encouraged by such sympathy, these Afridis are showing signs of discontent (against the English). The Indian Government is therefore somewhat displeased with Amir Habibullah. The paper fears that troubles are likely to arise on the North-West Frontier.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

4. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October also notices the above fact, and says that Amir Habibullah is following a policy quite contrary to that of his father, the late Amir.

Policy of the present Amir of Kabul.

BHARAT MITRA,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

Policy of the present Amir of Kabul.

5. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 8th October repeats the above, and fears that Government may have to engage in another Kabul war.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

6. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October says that a strong power like Japan having protested against the legislative action of the Australian Government prohibiting Asiatics from residing even temporarily in Australia, the latter had to modify its law in favour of that country because might creates right.

The Australian enactment to prevent Asiatics from living in Australia.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

CHARU MIHIR,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

7. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 4th October draws the attention of the police authorities to the case in which it was proved before the Munsif of Jamalpur in the Mymensingh district that Babu Sasi Bhusan Chaudhuri, the Police Inspector of Tangail, had submitted a false written statement in his Court regarding a complaint which had been brought against Sasi Babu by Salimannessa Khatun, the widow of the late Abdul Majid Miya, *jotdar* of the Patiladaha pargana. It behoves the Government to consider

The Inspector of the Tangail thana.

whether a man like Sasi Babu should be kept in the police service. He should at least be transferred from the Mymensingh district.

8. The *Manbhum* [Purulia] of the 4th October publishes a letter relating to the murder of Babu Trailackyanath Bhattacharya, the Dewan of Maharaj-kumar Sanjilal

MANBHUM,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

A murder case in Manbhum. Shaheb Bahadur of Kasipur in the district of Manbhum. The correspondent, who is a son of the deceased, gives the facts as follow: It appears that the murdered man returned from Purulia to Kasipur on the 16th September last, after a stay of some ten days at the former place. Almost nobody was aware of his return that day. The house which he occupied was guarded by sentries and high walls. Among other occupants of the house was a woman, named Purnima, who was in the keeping of the deceased, and who knew where the latter's valuables were deposited. The correspondent suspects that the murder was done in collusion with this woman by some ruffians, who after the murder was done, decamped with all the money and other valuables. At the preliminary inquiry, the woman concealed everything; but afterwards before the Joint-Magistrate she made some disclosures. She bore witness that the murder was committed by a notorious local ruffian named Chanda Musalman; that after the deed was done, when she asked Chanda why he did the murder, she was threatened into silence by fear of bodily injury. This Chanda is notorious throughout the whole locality for his acts of ruffianism, and the deceased Dewan came into collision with him over a law suit. The local public stand in so much awe of this miscreant that they dare not bear witness against him.

9. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th October writes as follows:—

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA
Oct. 5th, 1904.

The Police Administration Report.

A perusal of this year's Police Administration Report has filled us with despair and pain. Government is under the impression that the police are made the victims of false and harassing complaints at the hands of the public. Trying Magistrates are therefore requested to specially scrutinise all cases brought against the police, and resort more frequently to prosecution under section 211, when the charges are found to be false. This request might well have been spared. For there was no necessity of insisting on the adoption of a procedure which is already adopted too frequently at the cost of public safety.

For the various reasons given below, the public in this country do not dare as a rule to bring a case against the police, even when they have a real grievance to complain of. In fact, they are more afraid of the police than of the District Magistrate:—

- (1) The natural aversion of the village people to incur the ill-will of a powerful body like the police, a body already armed with the power to class any law-abiding citizen as a criminal.
- (2) The difficulty of procuring witnesses who are led by considerations of their own safety to avoid coming in collision with the police.
- (3) A growing impression that Magistrates are unwilling to believe evidence offered against the police, however true such evidence may be.
- (4) A growing experience that a private suitor even with a strong case is no match for the police, who with their strong local influence and clever handling of cases, generally manage to make the right appear wrong.

There is no doubt that this new hint to the Magistrates will operate as a serious obstacle in the way of people getting justice against the police. In fact, the police department is being gradually made a part and parcel of the judicial department. Many cases of judicial inquiry are now conducted by the police. The Magistrates have long been in the habit of displaying an unjust bias in favour of the police. The police are being petted and pampered more and more. Who can doubt that this new hint in the report will only aggravate the existing evil? Already signs are apparent of what is coming. The following is a case in point. One Ram Chandra Marwari brought charges against the Sub-Inspector of thana Gaurangi in the district of Manbhum of illegal confinement and forcible extortion of some pieces of brick belonging to

the complainant. The duty of making the necessary preliminary inquiry in this case was entrusted by the trying Deputy Commissioner to the District Superintendent of Police, and transferred by the latter to one of his subordinate Inspectors. The inquiry resulted in a report that the case was false. Efforts were immediately made to bring the complainant under section 211, and it was only after moving the High Court that he could save himself for the time being.

What are the lessons of this case? It teaches Ram Chandra Marwari and his fellow-villagers that henceforth, whatever oppressions the police may be guilty of, they must put up with them quietly for their own safety. The impression will be widely spread that in practice it is criminal to accuse the police of any offence, however light or however heinous. His Majesty's helpless subjects are deprived of the protection of Courts against the oppressions of the all-powerful police. We could never dream that Sir Andrew Fraser's régime would be responsible for such a serious aggravation of the moral deterioration of the executive.

SOLTAN,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

10. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 7th October says that it has received a letter from a local correspondent strongly complaining of the oppressive conduct of the Manager of the Jhenida chakla of the zamindars of Narail in Jessore. The correspondent asserts that the Manager's oppressions have reduced the poor raiyats of the Dihi Suryat, Hamdaha, Bakri, Haldani and other chaklas to absolute beggary.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

11. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 7th October says that a numerous and influentially signed petition was lately submitted to the District Superintendent of Police, Nadia, objecting to the site and building selected by that officer for the location of a thana in Santipur town. The building is situated on the Victoria Road and is surrounded by numerous Hindu and Muhammadan family dwellings. Respectable Hindu ladies walk along this road when going to bathe in the river. There is also a Mussulman musjid near the building selected, and the noise that may be made by Hindu constables when celebrating the *Holi* festival may disturb the Muhammadans in their prayers and thereby bring about a quarrel. These considerations induced the authorities to desist from establishing a thana on the said road on a former occasion, and there is no reason why these reasons should be ignored now. Another convenient site may easily be selected, and Syambazar will admirably serve the purpose.

It is to be hoped that the District Superintendent of Police will see his way to reconsider the matter and select another site for the proposed thana, and thereby remove the apprehensions of the inhabitants.

DACCA PRAKAS,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

12. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 9th October calls attention to the lawlessness which is alleged to prevail at Nawabganj in Dacca. For instance, it is mentioned that the local police have not yet been able to trace the missing wives of Maju Karikar and Raj Mohan Das, who were forcibly abducted by some ruffians with an unlawful purpose. The absence of all moral restraint among the local people may be judged from the fact that an elderly married Musalman woman with four or five children has abandoned her husband and is openly living with her paramour. There is urgent need of a special detective or punitive police to supplement the existing local police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SWADESI,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

13. The *Swadesi* [Barisal] of the 4th October writes:—
It is no exaggeration to say that parties to suits, when applying for a revision or for the setting aside of a sale, can no longer expect to get a fair hearing from the Court. We are not aware whether this method of dispensing justice on the part of the local judicial officers is based upon any authoritative circular or ruling. Can it be that this is due to the orders passed by Mr. Temple, the late District Judge of Backergunge? It is said that orders were passed, that when a revision was granted under section 108 of the Civil

Revision of civil suits in the Backergunge district.

Procedure Code, proceedings would be instituted against the peon who served the process, the panchayet, and the identifier. Since the above order was passed, the lower Courts have shown a marked disinclination to grant revisions. But though the peon and the panchayet have thus been saved from possible punishment and dismissal, the interests of the parties have thereby been sacrificed. It must be said that this is gross injustice and is moreover illegal.

We wish to draw attention to the startling fact that while formerly fully 80 per cent. of revision cases were decided in favour of the defendants in the original suits, the percentage has at present sunk so low as 20. This shows that either the Courts were doing injustice to the parties before, or that they are doing so now. We believe the latter supposition to be true.

It is to be hoped that the present District Judge will remove these complaints.

14. The *Pratihar* [Berhampur] of the 7th October writes:—

PRATIHAR,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

Mr. Mackertich, the Senior Deputy Collector of Berhampur.

Mr. Mackertich, the able and experienced Senior Deputy Collector of this station, has been discharging his duties with great ability and credit. He is popular with the local public for the efficient manner in which he discharges his duties as well as for his amiability. He has been at this place for six years, and has consequently acquired great local knowledge. As the Collector, Mr. Halifax, is a new man to the district, the need of retaining an able senior Deputy like Mr. Mackertich to supply the present Collector's lack of local experience is sufficiently obvious. Moreover, the road-cess revaluation work on which Mr. Mackertich is at present engaged is still in progress, and consequently likely to suffer from a change of hands. And, finally, Mr. Mackertich is due to retire after a year's further service. On all these grounds his transfer at the present time to another station is inexpedient and undesirable.

(d)—Education.

15. *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 1st October notices with regret the misconduct of the students of the Bihar School.

AL PUNCH,
Oct. 1st 1904.

Conduct of the students of the Bihar School.

It has learnt from one of its correspondents—an eye-witness—that on the occasion of the last Ganesh Bisarjan fair a boy of a respectable family and belonging to the Bihar High School was seen fanning a dancing-girl while she was dancing, and some boys of the school were seen creating a row with the police and beating a constable.

16. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 4th October writes:—

TRIPURA
HITAISHI,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

The proposed Ranchi College.

Our Lieutenant-Governor wishes to establish a college at Ranchi. The Sibpur Engineering College will of course be removed to that town. His Honour intends to start an institution for the education of the sons of zamindars on the model of the "Raj Kumar Colleges." But already protests have begun to be made against this proposal, led by men like Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee. We, however, see nothing in this project to object to. An institution like the one proposed to be founded at Ranchi will bring within the reach of many sons of zamindars the combined benefits of mental and physical improvement. We trust the public will give this proposal their calm consideration. It is not a good sign to be always protesting against anything and everything that the Government wants to do.

17. A teacher, writing in the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 6th October, says

The Assam Education Department.

that quite a tumult has been created in the Education Department in Assam by the action of the Director of Public Instruction in dismissing a large number of *pathsala* teachers on the alleged ground of incompetency and in abolishing a large number of *pathsalas*. No steps, however, are being taken by the Department to prepare well-trained *pathsala* teachers.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 6th, 1904.

The Director has also ordered that none but F. A. passed men should be appointed as Head-Masters of middle schools, and is strictly carrying out his order, in disregard of the merit, ability and length of service of the men who now hold these posts, if only they happen to be men who were not so fortunate as to have passed the F. A. Examination. The Director ought to have shown

some consideration to these men by allowing them, say, one or two years' time, to pass either the F. A. Examination or the departmental examination.

The inspecting officers treat the *pathsala* teachers in a most insulting manner and never think it wrong to accept presents from them.

BANJIVANI,
Oct. 6th, 1904.

18. The same paper has the following:—

The operation of the new scholarship rules.

The selection of candidates for the vernacular examinations of the current year has been commenced by Inspectors, Deputy Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors according to the new rules. In Divisions where there are European Inspectors, the final selection which is being made by them reveals the greatest arbitrariness. The selections which are being made by Deputy Inspectors in the case of middle schools are found to be marked by race-feeling, carelessness, perfunctoriness, and ignorance. The greatest carelessness and ignorance of their duty are being shewn by Musalman Deputy Inspectors, who took up Persian as their second language at the University examinations and are, therefore, not very well up in Bengali. It is no wonder that the work of selection should be performed in a most perfunctory manner by a Deputy Inspector, who, being in charge of the education of a whole district, can scarcely pay more than one visit in the course of a year to any particular school. Suppose that on the day the Inspector pays his visit of inspection, the best boy of the school happens to be absent. The result is that not only are the prospects of that particular boy blighted, but the selection being made out of inferior boys, the boy selected fails to compete with boys from other schools, or if no selection is made the status of the school itself suffers greatly. Though one of the rules says that the inspecting officer should make his selection in consultation with the Head-Master, this instruction is not being followed in practice. To take two instances: The Deputy Inspector of Pabna selected from the Shahajadpur High English School a boy for the Middle Scholarship Examination who is a Musalman and the third boy of his class, although the teachers pointed out that the second boy was more eligible both in consideration of his intelligence and his poor circumstances. Again, the Deputy Inspector selected from the Amritalal Middle English School in Sirajganj the second boy and another occupying the fourth or fifth position who is a Musulman. These two cases show the partiality with which Musalman boys are being treated. There is, indeed, no saying how many such cases of injustice will occur under the new rules.

Though the examinations will take place in the month of November, selections have not yet been made from many schools. The teachers and boys of these schools are therefore in the greatest suspense. The uncertainty of the "lottery" of selection has also filled both teacher and pupil with despair and neither is working with his former zeal. The fact of the selections not being yet made will also make it impossible for any objections to be made against the selections.

The writer does not know what procedure the Inspectors will follow in preparing the final lists. They will retain half the nominations made by Deputy Inspectors and reject the other half. How is this selection to be made, when the Inspectors possess no personal knowledge of the candidates? It is to be hoped that the Inspectors will act with great care and deliberation in this matter. The truth is that the system of awarding scholarships which has been introduced is not at all good or wise. At least one boy ought to be selected from each school. In the award of scholarships it has not been wise to direct preference to be shown particularly for poor boys. A number of scholarships might have been set apart for such boys, and the rest thrown open to general competition.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

19. Referring to the new scheme of vernacular education, a correspondent of the *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 7th October points out that the new rule whereby only one student from each school will be allowed to

The new scheme of vernacular education.

compete for scholarships, creates an arbitrary distinction between one good student and another. For there might be more than one student in one school equally eligible. Again, for the proper selection of the students for scholarships the inspecting officers will have to make a preliminary examination of all the good students in each school and then to make a final choice of the very best

out of these. This latter work, if it is to be done thoroughly and impartially, will mean the expenditure of considerable time and labour on the part of the inspecting officer. An alternative scheme is suggested by the writer. Each school might be allowed, as now, to hold its own test examination of its students before sending them up for a final examination. To restrict the number appearing at the final examination, and thereby make the work of choosing among them easier to the inspecting officer, it might be ruled that none shall be considered to have passed the preliminary test examination, except such as have passed in all subjects, and secured 75 per cent. of the total number of marks. The advantages of the adoption of this alternative scheme will be—(1) It will make the work of the inspecting officer easier, and (2) it will remove the present disability whereby not more than one student from each school is allowed to compete for the scholarship.

20. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 7th October has a communi-
 cated article in which the writer complains that although the Dacca Madrassa is a Muhammadan institution supported by the Moshin Fund, yet the first four teachers in the English Department of this institution are all Hindus. Any objection against the Head-Master, Babu Rajendra Mohun Datta, would be out of place, as he has been in the Madrassa from its very foundation. It is a misfortune that, although there were able Muhammadan graduates as candidates for teacherships, Hindus were appointed as teachers in the Madrassa.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

Complaint of irregularities in the Dacca Madrassa.
 It will be found on enquiry that the condition of the institution has much deteriorated under its present management. The text-books appear to be selected in a most arbitrary fashion. For example, different text-books on arithmetic have been selected for different classes, entailing unnecessary expenditure on the guardians of the boys. Some of the teachers are whimsical. The teacher of geography fines boys who may not have an atlas in their hands. The time for gymnastics in the Madrassa is from 2-30 to 3-30 P.M., an hour not suitable for boys, who have thereby to be exposed to the autumnal sun.

21. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October complains from Nasriganj, district Shahabad, against the sense of justice of Babu Bhagwati Sahaya, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Patna Division, who, he says, promised to increase the pay of the teachers of the Board Vernacular School there if they could show better results at the departmental examination, but did not do so when the school showed the desired results. The Assistant Inspector now says that unless the attendance of the school improves, no promotion can be expected.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

The same paper observes that Babu Bhagwati Sahaya should fulfil his first promise as an encouragement to the teachers. Many Government officials like to take the credit of saving Government money, but they should remember that this money has not been brought from over the sea, but represents the blood of the people, and it is but fair it should go to support them; in other words, it should be returned to them.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

22. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th October has the following:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

Water-scarcity.
 Within recent years the health of the mufassal, always bad, has become worse. The main causes of this are the scarcity of wholesome drinking water and the want of proper drainage. Want of repairs has reduced the old sources of water-supply to a deplorable condition, and the construction of railroads has given rise to a permanent obstruction to the drainage of the country. Besides this, the pollution of drinking water by the steeping of jute in it is the cause of the great unhealthiness of the mufassal during four or five months in the year. It cannot of course be denied that the health of a number of villages has improved a little owing to the establishment of Municipalities in them. But there is room for much greater improvement. If the Municipalities cannot command large sums of money to enable them promptly to undertake large schemes of sanitary improvement they should proceed slowly but steadily in the direction of reform. Many of them have made arrangements for a latrine-service, but although the latrine-tax is

realised with great rigour, the irregularity of the *mekter*-service goes on unnoticed. The same may be said of most of the village Municipalities in the 24-Parganas, although the District Magistrate has, in his last annual report, said that the Municipalities under him have been doing very good work. But what are the mufassal Municipalities doing for the supply of wholesome drinking water to their rate-payers? It is in the power of almost everyone of them to excavate three or four tanks for the purpose. Why do they not do that? There are charitable dispensaries in most of the Municipalities, but people derive very little benefit from them. We do not mean to say that it is bad to establish charitable dispensaries, but that, prevention being better than cure, greater attention should be paid to the removal of causes of ill-health, such as water-scarcity, than to the adoption of remedial measures when there is an outbreak of disease. Half of the money spent in supporting charitable dispensaries should therefore be spent for water-supply. The other day the Chairmen of most of the Municipalities in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, assembled in Conference, informed the Government that they were too poor to supply filtered pipe-water to their rate-payers. But why do they not resort to the much cheaper method of excavating tanks for water-supply? District Officers, when they go to inspect municipal offices, only take care to enquire whether they are making good collections and, if they are satisfied on that point, give favourable reports.

Government is requested to increase its grant for water-supply. With its help the District Boards and Municipalities will to a great extent succeed in removing the scarcity of water in the country.

SOLTAN,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

23. A correspondent of the *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 7th. October complains of water-scarcity in the village of Kamdia, in the thana of Govindapur, district Rangpur. The nearest river, the Karatoya, is three miles off. There is only one tank in the village. And it is only during the rainy season that it contains any water, but even that is not fit for drinking purposes. For rotting weeds float on its surface, and cattle are bathed and washed in the water. The water of the neighbouring *bils* is also similarly unfit for consumption.

HITAVADI,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

24. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th October writes as follows:—

The Calcutta Municipality.

We tender our most hearty thanks to the Indian and European members of the Select Committee of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation for their able criticism of the municipal administration. History will always refer to them as honest and indefatigable fighters for the interest of the rate-payers of Calcutta. They might be defeated, as they were defeated, owing to the obtuseness of some of the Commissioners, but the depth and force of their arguments could not be ignored. It is never possible to hide the truth under a cloak of false and irrelevant words. We believe that the discussion which took place in the municipal meeting will bear golden fruits. After the discussion Government will not be able to remain indifferent to the matter. The Municipality exists for the town and not the town for the Municipality, so that if it is necessary to punish the Municipality for the sake of the townsmen, Government should do it.

HITAVADI.

25. Referring to the account, as published in *Capital*, of the attempts made by the Commissioner of the Presidency Division to make the election of Babu Anath Nath Mallik as Chairman of the Maniktola Municipality by the Municipal Commissioners, ineffectual, the same paper writes as follows:—

The Chairman-elect of the Maniktola Municipality.

We have been astonished to see the Presidency Commissioner unlawfully exercise his power for the purpose of destroying the glory of Local Self-Government. Local Self-Government has got a friend in Sir Andrew Fraser, and it is a wonder that such shameless oppression and *zulm* should be committed so near his palace. It is hoped that he will uphold the cause of justice and sanction Anath Babu's election.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

26. In noticing the high-handedness of the Footpath Inspectors employed by the Calcutta Municipality, which recently resulted in the Marwari strike and obliged Mr. Allen, Chairman of the Corporation, to apologise

The Footpath Inspectors of the Calcutta Municipality.

to the Marwaris as represented by their Association and to promise the withdrawal of the footpath rules, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October remarks that even this has not been a sufficient lesson to the municipal employés, and notices the case of a scuffle between the driver of a hackney carriage and a Footpath Inspector now pending before the Police Court, in which the driver has been charged for keeping his carriage waiting on the road for a long time and refusing to move on when told to do so. This deposition of the Inspector has not been corroborated and it is not shown that the road was obstructed. So long as there is no evidence to show the above, no prosecution is valid. Even when there is evidence to the above effect, the power of seizure and removal cannot be exercised even by the police, not to speak of a municipal Inspector.

The same paper then asks the Municipality to bear in mind the recent decision of Mr. Bonnaud, the Presidency Magistrate, before starting any prosecution.

27. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th October draws attention to the need of inquiry into the management of

The Sambhunath (Pandit Hospital at Bhawanipur, Calcutta.

the Sambhunath Pandit Hospital at Bhawanipur, near Calcutta. It is alleged that the Resident Assistant Surgeon (Babu Debendranath Hazra) is

not always present on the premises. Many old nurses have been dismissed for no fault of their own. The cases of two of them named Kalidasi and Sarasi deserve special enquiry. Two old and experienced matrons, Mrs. Sinha and Mrs. Mannock, have also been compelled to resign. Medicines for use in the hospital are taken from a local dispensary, which is against the orders of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals on the subject.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 11th, 1904.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

28. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October calls attention to

The Bhawal Estate in Dacca.

the alleged high-handed conduct of the District Magistrate of Dacca in entering into forcible

possession of the Bhawal estate. A correspondent reports that on the 5th October last, the above officer, accompanied by Mr. Myers, the dismissed Manager, a posse of police constables, and a Deputy Magistrate and some clerks, proceeded to Joydehpur, and gave the Rani only ten minutes' time to make over the papers of the estate and quit the palace. It is not easy to understand why the estate should be taken possession of suddenly in this fashion, after the Advocate-General, the Legal Remembrancer, and the Board of Revenue had all expressed an opinion against its being placed under the Court of Wards. This incident should be a warning to Bengal zamindars as to the risks of employing Europeans as their Managers.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

29. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 5th October, referring

The drainage question in Murshidabad.

to the construction of a drainage channel through Sunderpur and other villages in Murshidabad, remarks that this work alone would not drain all

the low-lying lands in the vicinity. The sowing of the *Chait* crops would thus be delayed, causing distress to the people.

It is further pointed out that as the Gobra *bil* is silting up, its bed should be deepened to the level of the bed of the main stream of the Bhagirathi. This would enable a free inflow and outflow of water of the tides. Then there would be no risk if the drainage channels of the surrounding villages are made to empty into this *bil*.

The abandonment of the bund which protected the thanas of Bhagwan-gola and Dewanserai has caused great distress among the local people. It has been suggested that the cultivators might build their houses on the top of the bund and so protect themselves from the ravages of the flood. But the top of the bund is only twelve feet wide. On this small width they are expected to build their houses, and leave space for a road; for the low lands adjoining the bund belong to different zamindars and have crops standing on them, and will not therefore be available for purposes of communication. This difficulty

MURSHIDABAD
HITAISHI.
Oct. 5th, 1904.

might be got over by selling at a nominal price the bund part by part to the zamindars of the adjoining pieces of low land. The cultivator who settles on the bund can then use the adjoining low land for communication, and if it should be found necessary for building purposes, can raise a part of it to the height of the bund.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
Oct. 5th 1904.

30. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 5th October says that Government has decided to increase the tax for taking the water of the Midnapore Canal for irrigation purposes from Re. 1-8 to Rs. 2 per acre from April 1905. This will cause the greatest hardship to the poor cultivators of the place. Even the present rate is heavy for them.

The water-rate for the Midnapore Canal.

HITAVADI,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

31. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th October says that, satisfied with the honesty, good conduct and proficiency of native ticket-collectors, the General Traffic Manager of the East Indian Railway has appointed many of them at Howrah, where there are at present only two Eurasian ticket-collectors. This arrangement is greatly disliked by many a European employé of the railway. The present station-master of Howrah harasses the native ticket-collectors in all sorts of ways. He has suspended one of them, reported against three others, and imposed a fine of one week's salary on another. The General Traffic Manager is requested to inquire into the matter.

The native ticket-collectors at Howrah.

HOWRAH HITAVADI,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

32. The *Howrah Hitavadi* [Howrah] of the 8th October complains of the incivility shown by the railway staff on the 27th September last in refusing to issue tickets at Lillooah station on the East Indian Railway to about fifty or sixty intending passengers by the 1-14 up train, although the passengers were pressing for their tickets from 11 A.M. Complaint is also made of the absence of arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water on the station platform.

A railway complaint.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

33. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October is glad that one of the subjects for consideration at the Railway Conference now sitting at Simla is the grievances of third-class passengers, and hopes that by devising some means of redress, the Railway Conference will remove the life-long stain on the Railway Companies.

The Railway Conference.

HITAVARTA.

34. The same paper learns from its correspondent at Kurhui that as no day trains stop at that station, the people who have very often to go to Muzaffarpur and Hajipur for litigation and other purposes are put to very great inconvenience, having sometimes to go to another railway station three miles off on foot in order to catch a train either way, and hopes that the authorities of the Bengal and North-Western Railway will consider the representation of the people, who have several times applied to the Traffic Superintendent without effect, and remove the cause of complaint.

A railway complaint.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

35. Referring to the Machpara railway accident, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October takes advantage of the occasion of the conviction of the driver and assistant station-master, to whose negligence the accident was due, to remind the railway authorities of their duty towards the helpless dependants of the victims of the accident. It may be that these persons do not know at all that they are entitled to damages, but that does not relieve the railway of its obligations in the matter.

The Machpara railway accident.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Oct. 11th, 1904.

36. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th October calls attention to the need for providing a waiting room and also an overbridge for the convenience of passengers at Mal station on the Bengal Duars Railway.

A railway complaint.

(h)—General.

CHARU MIHIR,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

37. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 4th October says that in section 1, page 103, Cess Manual, Government has stated the cause of its paying only one-third of the cost of the realisation of the Road and Public Works cesses, while the District Boards pay the remaining two-thirds. But although no such cause exists in the case of the cost of re-assessment of those cesses, section 5 in the same page provides that Government should pay only one-third

The cost of the re-assessment of Road and Public Works cesses.

of such costs also. Are not the two sections contradictory? It is hoped that some member of the Bengal Legislative Council will bring the matter to the notice of the Government, which, if convinced of its mistake, will surely correct it.

38. A correspondent of the same paper says that the head-quarters of the new district which it is proposed to form out of a portion of the Mymensingh district should be established at the Panchtikari village in the Maharaja of Mymensingh's zamindari or at some place near it, situate 4 or 5 miles south-west of Gopalpur, having on the south and west of it a broad road and a high field, respectively. North of Panchtikari flows the Atai river, which is an unfailing source of water all the year round. There is every facility for steamer traffic at the place, and the big high-road between Tangail and Panibari passes through it and makes carriage traffic easy. All these advantages will not be forthcoming if the head-quarters of the proposed district are established at Tangail or Jamalpur.

CHANDU MINIR,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

39. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 4th October writes as follows:—

The proposed transfer of the head-quarters of the Raniganj subdivision.

It is evident from Sir Andrew Fraser's speech at Raniganj that the head-quarters of the subdivision will, in spite of all opposition, be transferred to Asansol. It is also evident from His Honour's speech that the matter having been settled by his predecessor he has no hand in it. But we expect more independence from him. The proposed transfer would be to the benefit of the European coal-miners at Asansol, but to the great disadvantage of the inhabitants of the subdivision. The distance between Burdwan and Asansol is 65 miles, while that between Asansol and Raniganj is 11. This shows that if the head-quarters of the subdivision be transferred to Asansol, it would be giving the greatest indulgence to the people of that place at the cost of the inhabitants of the remaining part of the big subdivision. If, however, Government insists upon the transfer, we would also humbly and yet firmly ask His Honour to establish a new subdivision midway between Asansol and Burdwan. Again, the proposed transfer would cause great loss to such pleaders, mukhtars, zamindars, talukdars, etc., as have built houses and have permanently established themselves at Raniganj.

BURDWAN
SANJIVANI,
Oct. 4th, 1904.

40. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th October writes:—

The Indian Civil Service examination.

The high position which natives have secured in the recent Indian Civil Service examinations has inspired the authorities with a feeling of real alarm. Some plan to restrict the admission of natives to the examination has perhaps been in contemplation for many years past, and a matured scheme has now been brought forth. A new rule is going to be made that none will be allowed to compete at the examination except those who have received their general education in England through a long course of years. What a dreadful example of illiberal sentiments this! But even this restriction will not be enough to deter all Indians. But a point worth considering is whether the country at large gains what the students lose in sacrifices, hardships and expense before they can qualify themselves for the Civil Service. The people who pass into the service cannot preserve their nationality, they do no good to the country, and they lose all power of independent thought. What can the country gain from such beings? The only gain is that the individuals concerned get a "Mister" before their names. Mr. K. G. Gupta is an apt case in point: only think of the scandal he made the other day in protesting against the Select Committee's review of the Chairman's report on the Calcutta municipal administration of the past year.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
Oct. 5th, 1904.

41. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 5th October complains that

A complaint against a Civil Surgeon.

Dr. Innes, the local Civil Surgeon, does not attend the local hospital before the late hour of 12 noon, an arrangement extremely trying to many of the outdoor patients.

BARISAL HITASHI,
Oct. 5th, 1904.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 6th, 1904.

42. Referring to the creation of a special cadre for Europeans and Eurasians in the Bengal Secretariat and the attached offices, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 6th October writes as follows :—

Is not this a breach of the promise embodied in Her Majesty's Proclamation? Special privileges should be granted only to such classes of Indians as are backward in comparison with other sections of their fellow-subjects. Such are the Musalmans, and special favour should be shown to them in the distribution of scholarships. But the Europeans and Eurasians are inferior to none in India in education and advancement. Grant of official privileges to them therefore shows nothing but partiality for them on the part of the Government. If a person has five children, his family can never live in peace if he loves one of them more than he loves the others. We are sorry for what the Bengal Government has done. Actions like this bring only opprobrium on it.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

43. Referring to Mr. Sweetenham's letter to the *Times* of London regarding the separation of Burma from India, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October remarks that this is an age of separations, for Chittagong and some other eastern districts are already being cut off from Bengal. There will therefore be nothing to wonder at if Burma be separated. When Government does what it likes without listening to anybody there is no use saying anything on this subject.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

44. Referring to the despatch of the Secretary of State for India regarding petitions to the British Parliament from India, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October says the Indians ought to know that the procedure regarding the submission of petitions to Parliament is quite different from that prescribed for those submitted to the Secretary of State for India or the Privy Council, inasmuch as petitions to Parliament are not required to be stamped or submitted through pleaders. It would be enough if they be presented by a member.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

45. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October says that while the news about the annexation of Kashmir is still in the air, another serious news has reached its ears, viz., that the Punjab Government wants to acquire the Chel pargana of the Patiala State for the purpose of converting it into its summer residence.

The same paper observes that the Chief of that State is yet a minor and the administration is in the hands of the Political Agent. Probably the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Rivaz, is consulting the Political Agent about the acquisition. As the State is virtually in the hands of the British Government it would be an act of great injustice and breach of faith on its part if Sir Charles Rivaz takes even a portion of the State. The same question was raised while the late Chief of Patiala was living, but the State Council objected to part with any portion of the State, and Government had to give up the idea. The present State Council would do well to raise a similar objection.

BHARAT MITRA,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

46. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 8th October says that some Native States are going to show their loyalty to the paramount Power by increasing their Imperial Service troops, which means increase of expenditure. Some overzealous English papers, the *Globe* being one of them, are urging on the Government the necessity of increasing the European army to at least half the strength of the Native army, bearing in mind the lessons of the last mutiny.

The object of this recommendation is not only to rob the Native States of their wealth, but to increase the charges on the revenues of the Government of India.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

47. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 8th October reports that the prospects of the paddy crop were excellent in every district of the Burdwan Division this season, but there has been no rain for about a month now, and the crop is being parched under the terrible heat of the sun's rays. Unless there is rain within a week or two, the crop will be destroyed, and terrible distress will be the result.

RATNAKAR,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

48. The *Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 8th October reports that the place is badly in need of rain and that the paddy-fields are drying up. The poor cultivators are praying to God day and night for rain. The days are hot and the nights clear. No signs of rain are therefore visible.

ARYAVARTA,
Oct. 8th, 1904.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

49. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 3rd October publishes a long article on the points of difference between the Asiatics and the Europeans, and says that the Europeans are cruel and oppressive to those whom they consider lower than themselves in the scale of civilization. They are capable of doing anything and everything for the sake of gold. The Asiatics, on the other hand, are very kind-hearted, even towards their enemies, and prefer remaining satisfied with their present lot to quarrelling with others with a view to obtain what is beyond their reach. The Europeans call the Asiatics a nation of bigots. But, truly speaking, they themselves deserve that appellation. Their missionaries go to non-Christian countries to preach their faith, and conduct themselves in such a way as generally results in bloody strifes with the natives. This is nothing else but bigotry.

ROZNAAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN.
Oct. 3rd, 1904.

50. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th October writes:—
The illness of Lady Curzon. Everybody will be glad to hear that, by the blessing of God, Lady Curzon's health is gradually improving. Probably the natural tenderness of this noble American lady somewhat blunts the edge of Lord Curzon's keen political judgment. If Lord Curzon's powerful mind had not been partially influenced by Lady Curzon's sweet nature, his fertile brain would have been busy with innumerable new projects of reform and new plans of missions. If His Lordship had been a bachelor his whole life would have been absorbed in politics, and the politics of the whole world might have been revolutionised. England is now one of the foremost of the world Powers, and among English statesmen Lord Curzon is the foremost. His Excellency is unequalled in knowledge of the art of increasing the Empire. If a keen politician like him had been deprived of the softening influences of this great American lady, the political sky of the whole world might this day have been overcast with thick, dark clouds. May God speedily restore Lady Curzon to complete health.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
Oct. 5th, 1904.

51. The same paper writes:—
The moral deterioration of the British Parliament. The people of India have a long catalogue of grievances against the Government of this country. But they are sustained by the belief that all that is necessary to secure a redress of at least some of these grievances is a thorough agitation in Parliament. That assembly is believed to be composed of gentlemen who are at once just and powerful, and the people of India still have a strong confidence in the English nation for justice and fair play.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA.

The heavy burden of the military charges, the unholy union of the judicial and executive services, the restricted use of native talent in the higher Government offices, the gradual supersession of natives by Europeans and Eurasians in the lower ranks of the administration—all these are crying grievances, and in regard to every one of them it is the firm faith of Indians that the facts of the case have only to be properly brought to the notice of Parliament for the remedy to be applied. Take also the case of the recent agitation on the question of the proposed partition of Bengal. The remonstrances of the public were originally meant for Lord Curzon and the Government of

India. But when they proved obdurate, did the people lose heart? No, they gathered fresh strength from the thought that there remained a higher Court of Appeal—the British Parliament. The members of that body, animated by the considerateness and sense of justice to be expected from "Right Hon'ble English gentlemen," would not refuse justice to humble suppliants from India. It is this firm, unquestioning faith in Parliament which has sustained the spirits of the people of India through all the changes of Government policy.

But the picture which a patriotic and powerful English writer has drawn of the moral deterioration of the present Parliament has taken away this, the last prop of our hopes, and left us indeed miserable. A perusal of Mr. Frederic Harrison's article headed "The Gully Parliament," in a recent number of the *Positivist Review*, explains the underlying policy of each of Lord Curzon's various public measures in India and shows clearly how throughout he has acted in close touch with, and been animated by, the same sentiments as the Home Ministry. The policy which weakens the power of the people in Parliament is identical with that which governs India, only here it is more predominant, and finds better and more vigorous expression.

The upholders of this policy use the prospect of increasing England's wealth, power and prestige as a bait to induce the English public to give them support. The people at large have yielded to the charms of the prospect and consented to be led blind-folded by the Ministry. Under such circumstances, how can we expect Indian grievances to secure a hearing from the English public? Take the case of the separation of the judicial and executive services. Government objects to the separation, and the question comes before Parliament. Lord Curzon and his party will be ready to meet all criticism with the one assertion that the subordination of the judicial to the executive is necessary to secure the predominance of the English race in India. And that if British predominance disappears from India, it will mean an irreparable loss to the national prestige, wealth and power, so that there would be nothing left to the race in the world to boast of. It is therefore not for the Government alone but for the people of England as a whole that this proposal should be resisted. And if a member like Wedderburn rises from his seat in Parliament to prove the hollowness of arguments like these, he is immediately called to order and silenced by a complaisant Speaker, or perhaps the discussion of the question is adjourned on the plea of more urgent business. This is the pass to which things have come in Parliament. If Mr. Balfour and Lord Curzon had not appealed to the English people to support their Tibet Expedition on the ground that it would open up a new avenue of large trade and thereby bring money to the pockets of Englishmen, would they have succeeded in obtaining so many votes in Parliament in favour of their measure? Certainly not. To quote Mr. Harrison's own words, "Nowadays, for parliamentary purposes and in party questions, hon'ble gentlemen and English gentlemen are quite capable of fraud, which in trade brings men to penal servitude."

We are wounded to the heart's core to hear such a story of the degradation of the English race from the lips of a great Englishman, well known for his truthfulness, impartiality and philanthropy. In the hard times which have come on us, the strong sense of justice of the English people is the only anchor of our hopes. Whose words are we now to believe?

52. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 6th October writes:—

Christian missionaries and Hindu society.

Our rulers claim to understand all our interests and are constantly engaged in making laws and rules for our good, according to their lights. But can they not realise what a terrible wrong is done to a Hindu family when one of its members is enticed away and made to change his or her religion? For change of religion to a Hindu means exclusion from caste and from home. The convert's present and future are equally doomed, and the man or woman dies a social death, as it were. No wonder then that a Hindu household is absolutely thrown into a frenzy at the thought that one of its members is going to change his or her religion.

The frequent cases of enticing away of children by Christian missionaries might one day impel some Hindus to forget themselves and take to extreme courses. Will that be pleasant? It is because the rulers of the land are Christians themselves that they do not prevent these outrages by Christian

missionaries. Suppose English Christians changing their religion were subject to the same penalties and disabilities that a Hindu changing his religion undergoes, would missionaries of other religions have been allowed to come and preach in England? Would the English people have tolerated the presence of such missionaries among their families? Our humble representation to Government is that speedy steps be taken to prevent this outrageous conduct of the missionaries.

SOLTAN,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

53. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 7th October stongly condemns the growing popularity of the Sivaji Festival among the Hindus of Bengal. In the first place, it is tantamount to supporting resistance to the constituted authorities; and in the second, it is calculated to interfere with the growth of good feeling between Hindus and Musalmans. And as regards the man himself who is honoured, what was his life but a long story of rapine, ingratitude, fraud, assassination, treachery, arson, plunder, and the brutal killing of women? The Marathas by their depredations turned the whole country into a desert, and who was it that gave them the inspiration but Sivaji? The evidence of old and reliable histories on these points is now being discarded in favour of fanciful Maratha tales. It is a noticeable point that all the three present-day heroes of Bengali Hindus, viz., Raja Sitaram, Raja Pratapaditya and Sivaji, were noted rebels of their times.

Causes of ill-feeling between
Hindus and Muhammadans.

54. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 7th October enumerates the causes of ill-feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans as follows:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Oct. 7th, 1904.

- (1) The opposition of the Hindus to the slaughtering of cows by Muhammadans.
- (2) Hindu authors, even such a distinguished author as the late Babu Bankim Chandra Chatterji not excepted, vilify the character of illustrious Muhammadan men and women in their novels, dramas, and histories.
- (3) Hindu writers speak of Muhammadans as *mlechchhas*, *yavans*, *pati nerhes*, etc., in their books and newspapers.
- (4) Hindu zamindars have stopped *korbani* in various districts in Bengal.
- (5) Hindus regard Muhammadans as unclean animals whose touch is contamination.
- (6) Muhammadans do not object to eating bread and sweetmeats prepared by Hindus, but the latter would not partake of food touched by the former.
- (7) Powerful Hindus object to the sound of *ajan* (call for prayer) of Muhammadans.
- (8) Muhammadans are not allowed to sell beef in markets owned by Hindus.

Is unity between Hindus and Muhammadans then impossible, and is it not desirable that such unity should subsist? It must be said in reply that the manner in which Hindus are anxious to secure amity between the two communities must end in failure. It should not be forgotten that the Muhammadans are looked upon with hatred and misrepresented in the books and newspapers written by the Hindus.

The writer ends by making the following appeal to the Hindus:—

Brother, if you are really desirous of establishing friendly relations with us, begin by doing away with the shortcomings mentioned above. Do not thwart the Musalmans needlessly in their religious rites and social ceremonies. They in their turn will never interfere with your religion and customs. Thus and only thus can unity be established between us.

55. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 9th October, referring to the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce to move the Foreign Secretary to change the currency of South Africa from silver to gold, asks: What business has the Liverpool Chamber to ask for this change? and then gives this answer. The Liverpool weavers and other merchants are seeking to ruin the people of Africa in the same way as they have ruined the people of India by purchasing a rupee and a half worth of cotton and, for the

HITAVARTA,
Oct. 9th, 1904.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce and the South African currency.

matter of that, other things, by paying only one rupee under the protection of a currency legislation, as a very large quantity of cotton would be growing in Africa. The English Government cares more for the comfort and prosperity of the English people than for justice. It is at the request of the English people that Government has taxed all Indian articles of commerce so heavily that the arts and commerce of this country are gasping for their very existence. Who can then say that the same would not be done with the Africans? But of course the Africans have secured Local Self-Government and a Parliament in so short a time, whereas India has not had the good fortune of securing the same even in 150 years.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Oct. 10th, 1904.

56. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 10th October says that one of the results of the Tibet Mission is that it has convinced many Englishmen that the Tibetans come

The warlike races of India. of a fighting race, and that they would be of great service in time of war if they were admitted into the army. India, once the land of heroes, is gradually becoming void of fighting races for want of employment. Government would do well to admit them into the military service and thereby benefit itself as well as regenerate the decaying race.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Sept. 29th, 1904.

57. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 29th September states that the cessation of rain for more than a week has created apprehensions in the minds of the agriculturists in the Balasore district. They see no signs of clouds in the sky and have therefore become uneasy.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

58. The same paper is glad to learn that the Raja of Bamra has removed a great inconvenience of his subjects by importing a large number of half-pice and one pie copper coins from British territory and giving them currency in his own State.

URIYA AND NAVA-SAMVAD,
Sept. 21st, 1904.

59. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 21st September thanks His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for his earnest solicitude in furthering the educational interests of the Province, as evidenced by his proposal to establish a first-class college at Ranchi on a liberal basis.

URIYA AND NAVA-SAMVAD.

60. The same paper believes that Lord George Hamilton has strong views against the spread of English education in India, and combats those views by stating that the administration of the country by aliens will be practically impossible without the help of the educated Indians.

UTKALDIPKA,
Oct. 1st, 1904.

61. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 1st October states that the cessation of rain has made the cultivating classes very uneasy.

UTKALDIPKA.

62. The same paper says that the Muhammadan community of India will be glad to learn that pilgrims to Mecca will be permitted to sail from Bombay in the present year, and that their detention in the port of embarkation will be only for five days instead of ten.

UTKALDIPKA.

63. The same paper sympathises with Lord Curzon in his present troubles due to the serious illness of Lady Curzon, who, through God's blessing, is reported to be doing well.

UTKALDIPKA.

64. The same paper mourns the death of Mr. William Digby, C.I.E., who was a staunch friend of the Indians in England, and whose disinterested services rendered to this country will be remembered by them with gratitude. His death is looked upon as an irreparable loss to India.

UTKALDIPKA.

65. The same paper fears that the departure of the British force from Lhasa may lead to serious complications in the restoration of the Dalai Lama, who is in no way a friend of the English.

Tibetan affairs.

66. The same paper objects to the novel order of the Cuttack District Board, regarding the disposal of the dead bodies of diseased cattle, which is being enforced in the Cuttack district through the instrumentality of the police. The order requires the owners of dead and

UTKALDIPKA.
Oct. 1st, 1904.

The Cuttack District Board on the disposal of the dead bodies of diseased cattle.

diseased cattle to cut the dead bodies into pieces and have them buried underground, so as to remove the possibility of the contamination of the surrounding air by any discharge from the carcass of the diseased animal. The writer contends that the Hindus will feel it very repugnant to cut the dead bodies of diseased cows and bullocks into pieces, while the *pans* and *mehters*, who generally eat the flesh of such animals and trade in their hides, will be very much disappointed and discontented by the aforesaid order. The Indian Veterinary Surgeon on whose report the above order was based did not recommend such a disposal of the dead bodies of diseased cattle. It would be enough if the *pans* and *mehters* are permitted to dispose of the bodies in the way they think best, provided they do not expose any part of the dead and diseased animal in such a way as to contaminate the surrounding air or to communicate any contagious disease to the cattle grazing on the fields.

67. The *Garyatbasini* [Talcher] of the 1st October says that the cessation of rain has caused great anxiety in Talcher. The crops on high lands are about to die. The cry for

GARYATBASINI,
Oct. 1st, 1904.

The cessation of rains.

rain is general throughout the State.

68. A correspondent of the same paper states that the Raja of Talcher is taking great pains to improve the condition of his police force.

GARYATBASINI.

The police in Talcher State.

69. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 28th September states that rain is wanted urgently in the Balasore district.

URIYA AND NAVA-SAMVAD,
Sept. 28th, 1904.

The weather in Balasore.

70. The same paper regrets that rinderpest is raging among cattle in the Balasore district.

URIYA AND NAVA-SAMVAD.

71. The same paper supports the proposal of the Raja of Puri to increase the emoluments of Babu Raj Kisor Das, the present Manager of the Puri temple, who has distinguished himself by his able and wise management of its affairs.

URIYA AND NAVA-SAMVAD.

Babu Raj Kisor Das, the Manager of the Puri temple.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 15th October, 1904.

A horizontal strip of light gray, textured material, possibly a piece of paper or fabric, with a dark, irregular border on the left side. The texture is slightly grainy, and there are some small dark specks scattered across the surface. The left edge is jagged and uneven, while the right edge is straight.